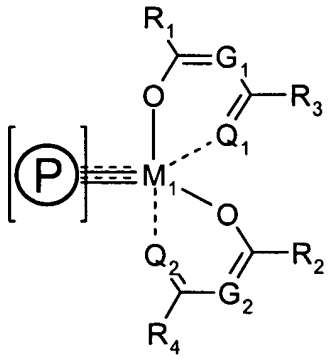
In the claims:

1. **(original)** An optical recording medium comprising a substrate, a recording layer and optionally one or more reflecting layers, wherein the recording layer comprises a compound of formula



(I) or a tautomeric or mesomeric form thereof,

wherein

$G_1$ and $G_2$ are each independently of the other $C(R_5)$ or N;

$M_1$ is a lanthanide or transition metal of groups 4 to 10;

Ⓟ is a phthalocyanino diradical;

$Q_1$ and $Q_2$ are each independently of the other O or S,

$R_1$ and $R_2$ are each independently of the other $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkyl, $C_3$-$C_{12}$cycloalkyl, $C_2$-$C_{12}$alkenyl or $C_3$-$C_{12}$cycloalkenyl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_6$, or $C_6$-$C_{10}$aryl, $C_1$-$C_9$heteroaryl, $C_7$-$C_{12}$aralkyl or $C_2$-$C_{12}$heteroaralkyl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_7$;

$R_3$ and $R_4$ are each independently of the other hydrogen, hydroxy, S-$R_8$, O-$R_8$, O-CO-$R_8$, $OCOOR_8$, $NH_2$, NH-$R_8$, $NR_8R_9$, $NHCOR_8$, $NR_8COR_{10}$, $NHCOOR_8$, $NR_8COOR_{10}$, ureido, $NR_8$-CO-$NHR_{10}$, or $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkyl, $C_3$-$C_{12}$cycloalkyl, $C_2$-$C_{12}$alkenyl or $C_3$-$C_{12}$cycloalkenyl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_6$, or $C_6$-$C_{10}$aryl, $C_1$-$C_9$heteroaryl, $C_7$-$C_{12}$aralkyl or $C_2$-$C_{12}$heteroaralkyl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_7$;

each $R_5$, independently of any other $R_5$, is hydrogen, or $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkyl, $C_3$-$C_{12}$cycloalkyl, $C_2$-$C_{12}$alkenyl or $C_3$-$C_{12}$cycloalkenyl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_6$, or $C_6$-$C_{10}$aryl, $C_1$-$C_9$heteroaryl, $C_7$-$C_{12}$aralkyl or $C_2$-$C_{12}$heteroaralkyl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_7$;

wherein $R_1$ and $R_2$, $R_2$ and $R_3$, $R_3$ and $R_4$ or $R_1$ and $R_4$ can be linked by a bonding member, or two of $R_1$, $R_2$, $R_3$ and $R_4$ can each be linked by a bonding member to one of the two other $R_1$, $R_2$, $R_3$ and $R_4$ to form pairs, and each bonding member is a direct bond or a bridge O, S or $N(R_8)$; or
$R_1$ forms with $R_5$ of $G_1$ and/or $R_3$ forms with $R_5$ of $G_2$ a saturated, mono- or poly-unsaturated or aromatic 5- or 6-membered ring which may optionally contain 1, 2 or 3 identical or different hetero atoms -O-, -S-, -N= or -$N(R_8)$-, which ring is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_7$; and/or
$R_2$ forms with $R_5$ of $G_1$ and/or $R_4$ forms with $R_5$ of $G_2$ a saturated or mono- or poly-unsaturated 5- or 6-membered ring which may optionally contain 1, 2 or 3 identical or different hetero atoms -O-, -S-, -N= or -$N(R_8)$-, which ring is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_6$;

$R_6$ is halogen, hydroxy, O-$R_{11}$, O-CO-$R_{11}$, oxo, S-$R_{11}$, thioxo, $NH_2$, NH-$R_{11}$, $NR_{11}R_{12}$, $NH_3^+$, $NH_2R_{11}^+$, $NHR_{11}R_{12}^+$, $NR_{11}R_{12}R_{13}^+$, $NR_{11}$-CO-$R_{13}$, $NR_{11}COOR_{13}$, cyano, formyl, COO-$R_{11}$, carboxy, carbamoyl, CONH-$R_{11}$, $CONR_{11}R_{12}$, ureido, NH-CO-$NHR_{13}$, $NR_{11}$-CO-$NHR_{13}$, phosphato, P(=O)$R_{11}R_{13}$, $POR_{11}OR_{13}$, $OPR_{11}R_{13}$, $OPR_{11}OR_{13}$, P(=O)$R_{11}OR_{13}$, P(=O)$OR_{11}OR_{13}$, OP(=O)$R_{11}OR_{13}$, OP(=O)$OR_{11}OR_{13}$, $OPO_3R_{11}$, $SO_2R_{11}$, sulfato, sulfo, $R_{14}$, N=N-$R_{14}$, or $C_1$-$C_8$alkoxy or $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkoxy each unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted by halogen;

$R_7$, independently of any other $R_7$, is $R_{15}$, halogen, nitro, cyano, thiocyano, hydroxy, S-$R_8$, O-$R_8$, O-CO-$R_8$, $OCOOR_8$, $NH_2$, NH-$R_8$, $NR_8R_9$, $NHCOR_8$, $NR_8COR_{10}$, $NHCOOR_8$, $NR_8COOR_{10}$, ureido, $NR_8$-CO-$NHR_{10}$, $NH_3^+$, $NH_2R_8^+$, $NHR_8R_9^+$, $NR_8R_9R_{10}^+$, N=N-$R_{15}$, N=$CR_8R_9$, N=$CR_{16}R_{17}$, C($R_{18}$)=$NR_8$, C($R_{18}$)=$NR_{16}$, C($R_{18}$)=$CR_{16}R_{17}$, CHO, $CHOR_8OR_{10}$, $COR_9$, $CR_9OR_8OR_{10}$, $CONH_2$, $CONHR_8$, $CONR_8R_9$, $SO_2R_8$, $SO_3R_8$, $SO_2NH_2$, $SO_2NHR_8$, $SO_2NR_8R_9$, COOH, $COOR_8$, $B(OH)_2$, B(OH)($OR_8$), B($OR_8$)$OR_{10}$, phosphato, P(=O)$R_8R_{10}$, $POR_8OR_{10}$, P(=O)$R_8OR_{10}$, P(=O)$OR_8OR_{10}$, $OPR_8R_{10}$, $OPR_8OR_{10}$, OP(=O)$R_8OR_{10}$, OP(=O)$OR_8OR_{10}$, $OPO_3R_8$, sulfato, sulfo, or $C_1$-$C_5$alkyl, $C_3$-$C_6$cycloalkyl, $C_1$-$C_5$alkylthio, $C_3$-$C_6$cycloalkylthio, $C_1$-$C_5$alkoxy or $C_3$-$C_6$cycloalkoxy each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_6$;

$R_8$, $R_9$ and $R_{10}$ are each independently of the others $R_{15}$, $R_{19}$-[O-$C_1$-$C_4$alkylene]$_m$, $R_{19}$-[NH-$C_1$-$C_4$alkylene]$_m$, or $C_1$-$C_8$alkyl, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkyl, $C_2$-$C_8$alkenyl or $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkenyl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, halogen, hydroxy, $C_1$-$C_5$alkoxy or $C_3$-$C_6$cycloalkoxy radicals; or

$R_8$ and $R_9$ together with the common nitrogen are pyrrolidine, piperidine, piperazine or morpholine, each of which is unsubstituted or mono- to tetra-substituted by $C_1$-$C_4$alkyl; or
$R_8$ and $R_{10}$ together are $C_2$-$C_8$alkylene, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkylene, $C_2$-$C_8$alkenylene or $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkenylene, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, halogen, hydroxy, $C_1$-$C_5$alkoxy or $C_3$-$C_6$cycloalkoxy radicals;

$R_{11}$, $R_{12}$ and $R_{13}$ are each independently of the others $C_1$-$C_8$alkyl, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkyl, $C_2$-$C_8$alkenyl, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkenyl, $R_{19}$-[O-$C_1$-$C_4$alkylene]$_m$, $R_{19}$-[NH-$C_1$-$C_4$alkylene]$_m$, $C_6$-$C_{10}$aryl, $C_4$-$C_9$heteroaryl, $C_7$-$C_{10}$aralkyl or $C_5$-$C_9$heteroaralkyl; or
$R_{11}$ and $R_{12}$ together with the common nitrogen are pyrrolidine, piperidine, piperazine or morpholine, each of which is unsubstituted or mono- to tetra-substituted by $C_1$-$C_4$alkyl;

$R_{14}$ is $C_6$-$C_{12}$aryl, $C_4$-$C_{12}$heteroaryl, $C_7$-$C_{12}$aralkyl or $C_5$-$C_{12}$heteroaralkyl, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_7$;

$R_{15}$ is phenyl, $C_4$-$C_5$heteroaryl, $C_7$-$C_8$aralkyl or $C_5$-$C_7$heteroaralkyl, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_{20}$;

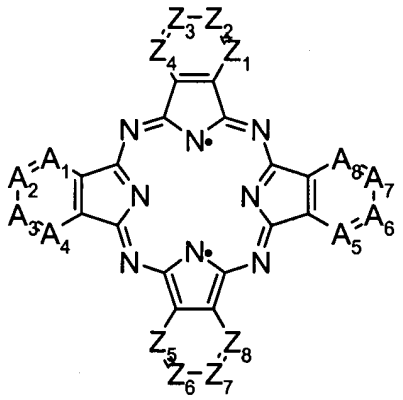
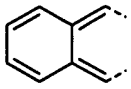
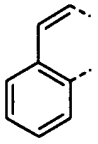
$R_{16}$ and $R_{17}$ are each independently of the other $NR_{11}R_{12}$, CN, $CONH_2$, $CONHR_8$, $CONR_8R_9$ or $COOR_9$;

$R_{18}$ is $R_{15}$, hydrogen, cyano, hydroxy, $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkoxy, $C_3$-$C_{12}$cycloalkoxy, $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkylthio, $C_3$-$C_{12}$cycloalkylthio, amino, $NHR_{13}$, $NR_{11}R_{12}$, halogen, nitro, formyl, COO-$R_{11}$, carboxy, carbamoyl, CONH-$R_{11}$, $CONR_{11}R_{12}$, or $C_1$-$C_8$alkyl, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkyl, $C_2$-$C_8$alkenyl or $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkenyl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, halogen, hydroxy, $C_1$-$C_5$alkoxy or $C_3$-$C_6$cycloalkoxy radicals; or
$R_8$ and $R_{18}$ together are $C_2$-$C_8$alkylene, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkylene, $C_2$-$C_8$alkenylene or $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkenylene, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, halogen, hydroxy, $C_1$-$C_5$alkoxy or $C_3$-$C_6$cycloalkoxy radicals;

$R_{19}$ is hydrogen, $C_1$-$C_4$alkyl or $C_1$-$C_3$alkylcarbonyl;

$R_{20}$ is nitro, $SO_2NHR_{11}$, $SO_2NR_{11}R_{12}$, or $C_1$-$C_8$alkyl, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkyl, $C_1$-$C_8$alkylthio, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkylthio, $C_1$-$C_8$alkoxy or $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkoxy each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, halogen, hydroxy, $C_1$-$C_5$alkoxy or $C_3$-$C_6$cycloalkoxy radicals;
and
m is a number from 1 to 4.

2. **(currently amended)** An optical recording medium according to claim 1, wherein $G_1$ and $G_2$ are each independently of the other $C(R_5)$;
$M_1$ is a lanthanide or transition metal of groups 4 to 7~~, especially Ti, Zr or Hf, more especially Zr;~~

Ⓟ is a phthalocyanino diradical of formula  , wherein $A_1$ to $A_8$ and $Z_1$ to $Z_8$ are all independently of one another N or $CR_{24}$, and each $R_{24}$ independently of the other $R_{24}$ is H or $R_7$; or two adjacent $R_{24}$ together are 1,4-buta-1,3-dienylene,  or  , each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_7$ and wherein 1 or 2 carbon(s) may have been replaced by nitrogen; and
$Q_1$ and $Q_2$ are O;

$R_3$ and $R_4$ are each independently of the other hydrogen, hydroxy, S-$R_8$, O-$R_8$, $NH_2$, NH-$R_8$, $NR_8R_9$; $C_1$-$C_8$alkyl, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkyl, $C_2$-$C_8$alkenyl or $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkenyl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_6$; or $C_6$-$C_{10}$aryl or $C_1$-$C_9$heteroaryl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_7$;

$R_5$ is hydrogen or forms a 5- or 6-membered ring with $R_1$ or $R_2$;

$R_6$ is halogen, hydroxy, O-$R_{11}$, O-CO-$R_{11}$, oxo, $NH_2$, NH-$R_{11}$, $NR_{11}R_{12}$, or $C_1$-$C_4$alkoxy unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted by halogen;

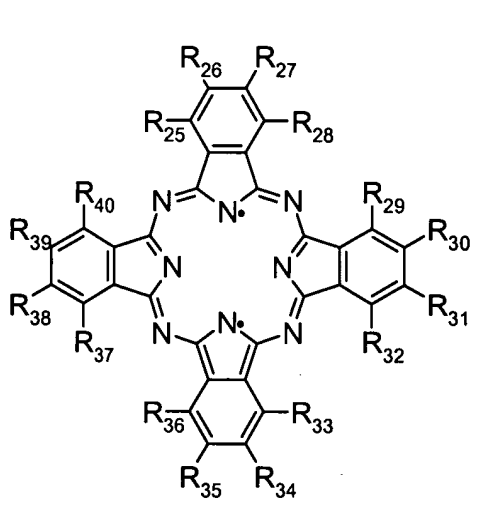
and

$R_7$ is halogen, nitro, cyano, thiocyano, S-$R_8$, O-$R_8$, $NH_2$, NH-$R_8$, $NR_8R_9$, $NHCOR_8$, $N=CR_8R_9$, $N=CR_{16}R_{17}$, CHO, $CHOR_8OR_{10}$, $COR_9$, $CONR_8R_9$, $SO_2R_8$, $COOR_8$, or $C_1$-$C_5$alkyl or $C_1$-$C_5$alkoxy each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_6$.

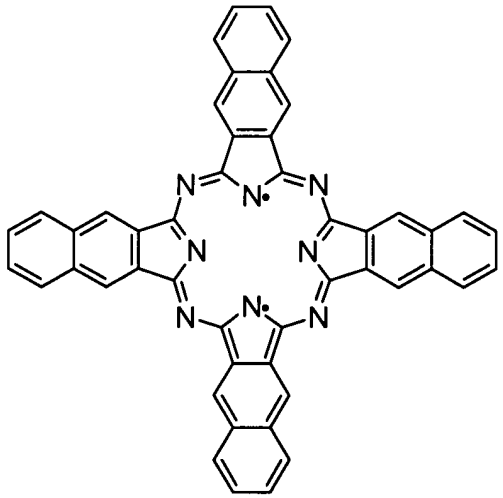
3. **(currently amended)** An optical recording medium according to claim 1, ~~or 2,~~ wherein $G_1$ and $G_2$ are each independently of the other $C(R_5)$;

$M_1$ is Ti, Zr or Hf; ~~, more especially Zr;~~

Ⓟ is a phthalocyanino diradical of formula



or



,

wherein $R_{25}$ to $R_{40}$ are all independently of one another H, halogen, O-$R_8$, S-$R_8$, O-CO-$R_8$, NH-$R_8$, $NR_8R_9$, $CH_2OR_{11}$, $CH_2NR_{11}R_{12}$, $C(R_{18})=CR_{16}R_{17}$, CHO, $CHOR_8OR_{10}$, $C(R_{18})=NR_8$, $COR_9$, $CR_9OR_8OR_{10}$, CN, COOH, $COOR_8$, $CONH_2$, $CONHR_8$, $CONR_8R_9$, $SO_2R_8$, $SO_2NH_2$, $SO_2NHR_8$, $SO_2NR_8R_9$, $SO_3R_8$, $SiR_8R_9R_{10}$, $POR_8OR_{10}$, $P(=O)R_8R_{10}$, $P(=O)R_8OR_{10}$, $P(=O)OR_8OR_{10}$, $P(=O)(NH_2)_2$, $P(=O)(NHR_8)_2$, $P(=O)(NR_8R_9)_2$, $OPR_8R_{10}$, $OPR_8OR_{10}$, $OP(=O)R_8OR_{10}$, $OP(=O)OR_8OR_{10}$ or $OPO_3R_8$, more especially H, halogen, O-$R_8$, O-CO-$R_8$, NH-$R_8$, $NR_8R_9$, $CH_2OR_{11}$ or $CH_2NR_{11}R_{12}$; and also

$Q_1$ and $Q_2$ are O;

$R_1$ and $R_2$ are each independently of the other $C_1$-$C_5$alkyl or $C_2$-$C_5$alkenyl, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_6$, or phenyl or $C_2$-$C_5$heteroaryl, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_7$;

$R_3$ and $R_4$ are each independently of the other hydrogen, hydroxy, S-$R_8$, O-$R_8$, $NH_2$, NH-$R_8$, $NR_8R_9$, or $C_1$-$C_5$alkyl or $C_2$-$C_5$alkenyl each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_6$, or phenyl unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_7$;

$R_5$ is hydrogen or forms a 5- or 6-membered ring with $R_1$ or $R_2$;

$R_6$ is halogen, hydroxy, O-$R_{11}$, oxo, $NH_2$, NH-$R_{11}$ or $NR_{11}R_{12}$;
and
$R_7$ is halogen, nitro, cyano, O-$R_8$, NH-$R_8$, $NR_8R_9$, CHO, $CHOR_8OR_{10}$, $COR_9$, $CONR_8R_9$, $SO_2R_8$, $COOR_8$, or $C_1$-$C_5$alkyl or $C_1$-$C_5$alkoxy each unsubstituted or substituted by one or more, where applicable identical or different, radicals $R_6$.

4. **(currently amended)** An optical recording medium according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3,~~ wherein the compound of formula (I) contains branched $C_3$-$C_{12}$alkyl or branched $C_3$-$C_{12}$alkenyl.

5. **(currently amended)** An optical recording medium according to claim 1, ~~2, 3 or 4,~~ wherein the recording layer is substantially amorphous.

6. **(currently amended)** An optical recording medium according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4 or 5,~~ additionally comprising a covering layer, wherein substrate, reflector layer, recording layer and covering layer are arranged in that order.

7. **(currently amended)** An optical recording medium according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5 or 6,~~ which in addition to comprising a compound of formula (I) comprises a metal-free chromophore.

8. **(currently amended)** An optical recording medium according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7,~~ wherein the compound of formula (I) ~~according to claim 1~~ is substantially amorphous.

9. **(currently amended)** A method of producing an optical recording medium according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8,~~ wherein a solution of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 is applied by spin-coating to a grooved substrate.

10. **(currently amended)** A method of recording or playing back data, wherein the data on an optical recording medium according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8~~ are recorded or played back at a wavelength of from 350 to 500 nm.

11. **(new)** An optical recording medium according to claim 2, wherein $M_1$ is Ti, Zr or Hf.

12. **(new)** An optical recording medium according to claim 11, wherein $M_1$ is Zr.

13. **(new)** An optical recording medium according to claim 3, wherein $M_1$ is Ti, Zr or Hf.

14. **(new)** An optical recording medium according to claim 13, wherein $M_1$ is Zr.